

ON

NATIVE PAPERS

FOR THE

Week ending the 17th December 1881.

LIST OF NEWSPAPERS.

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.
	BENGALI.			
	<i>Monthly.</i>			
1	"Bhārat Shramajivī"	Calcutta ...	2,100	
2	"Grāmvartā Prakāshikā"	Comercolly ...	175	Kārtik, 1288 B.S.
	<i>Fortnightly.</i>			
3	"Sansodhini"	Chittagong ...	600	8th December 1881.
4	"Purva Pratidhwani"	Ditto ...	.....	
	<i>Weekly.</i>			
5	"Ananda Bazar Patrikā"	Calcutta ...	700	5th ditto.
6	"Arya Darpan"	Ditto ...	.....	16th ditto.
7	"Bhārat Bandhu"	Ditto ...	.....	13th ditto.
8	"Bhārat Mihir"	Mymensing ...	671	6th ditto.
9	"Bengal Advertiser"	Calcutta ...	2,000	
10	"Bardwān Sanjivani"	Burdwan ...	296	13th ditto.
11	"Chāruvartā"	Sherepore, Mymensing ...	.....	5th ditto.
12	"Dacca Prakāsh"	Dacca ...	350	11th ditto.
13	"Dūt"	Calcutta ...	.....	12th ditto.
14	"Education Gazette"	Hooghly ...	745	16th ditto.
15	"Halisahar Prakāshikā"	Calcutta ...	.....	10th ditto.
16	"Hindu Ranjikā"	Beauleah, Rājshāhye... ..	200	14th ditto.
17	"Medinī"	Midnapore ...	.....	10th ditto.
18	"Murshidābād Patrikā"	Berhampore ...	487	
19	"Murshidābād Pratinidhi"	Ditto ...	.....	
20	"Navavibhākar"	Calcutta ...	850	12th ditto.
21	"Paridarshak"	Sylhet ...	.....	4th ditto.
22	"Pratikār"	Berhampore ...	275	
23	"Rajshahye Samvād"	Beauleah ...	.....	
24	"Rungpore Dik Prakāsh"	Kakiniā, Rungpore ...	250	15th ditto.
25	"Sādhārani"	Chinsurah ...	500	11th ditto.
26	"Sahachar"	Calcutta ...	500	
27	"Som Prakāsh"	Changripottā, 24-Perghs. ...	.....	12th ditto.
28	"Sudhākar"	Mymensing ...	.....	
29	"Sulabha Samāchār"	Calcutta ...	4,000	10th ditto.
30	"Srihatta Prakāsh"	Sylhet ...	440	
31	"Tripurā Vartāvaha"	Commillah ...	.....	
	<i>Daily.</i>			
32	"Samvād Prabhākar"	Calcutta ...	700	9th to 15th December 1881.
33	"Samvād Purnachandrodaya"	Ditto ...	300	9th to 12th ditto.
34	"Samāchār Chandrikā"	Ditto ...	625	14th to 17th ditto.
35	"Banga Vidyā Prakāshikā"	Ditto ...	500	13th to 17th ditto.
36	"Prabhāti"	Ditto ...	.....	10th to 17th ditto.
37	"Samāchār Sudāhbarsan"	Ditto ...	.....	
	ENGLISH AND URDU.			
	<i>Weekly.</i>			
38	"Urdu Guide"	Ditto ...	365	10th December 1881.
	HINDI.			
	<i>Weekly.</i>			
39	"Behār Bandhu"	Bankipore, Patna ...	500	8th ditto.
40	"Bhārat Mitra"	Calcutta ...	500	8th ditto.
41	"Sār Sudhānidhi"	Ditto ...	200	12th ditto.
42	"Uchit Baktā"	Ditto ...	.....	10th ditto.
	PERSIAN.			
	<i>Weekly.</i>			
43	"Jām-Jahān-numā"	Ditto ...	250	9th ditto.
	URDU.			
	<i>Weekly.</i>			
44	"Akhbār-i-Darussaltanat"	Ditto ...	.....	14th ditto.
	ASSAMESE.			
	<i>Monthly.</i>			
45	"Assam Vilāsini"	Sibsagar ...	.....	
	URIYA.			
	<i>Weekly.</i>			
46	"Utkal Dīpikā"	Cuttack ...	.....	



PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION.

PARIDARSHAK,
December 4th, 1881.

Local boards.

The *Paridarshak*, of the 4th December, makes the following observations on Lord Ripons's scheme of local self-government:—Now there are four things to be considered in reference to the selection of members for the local boards, namely (1) the places from which members should be selected, (2) the manner of selection, (3) the extent of supervision to be exercised by Government over these local bodies, and (4) the branches of work to be transferred to their control. It has been repeatedly urged in these columns that the noble object aimed at by Lord Ripon would never be attained if it were in the power of the local Government officers in any way to influence the action of the board, or if the majority of the members consisted of officials. The local boards being intended to be representative bodies, the members should be selected from among the people. There should be three or four members selected for every thana by the inhabitants living under its jurisdiction. They must be men of some education, and presumedly of independent views. The electoral franchise should be conferred only upon those that might possess an income not lower than Rs. 40 a year.

PARIDARSHAK.

2. A correspondent of the same paper, while highly commending the judicial impartiality and courteous disposition of Mr. Macpherson, the Sub-Divisional Officer of Habigunj, nevertheless regrets to have to notice that he is in the habit of applying abusive language to the ministerial officers and the mukhtars of his court, and that in a recent case before him, a witness having failed to enter appearance, Mr. Macpherson issued a summons for the appearance in court of the females of his household.

CHARU VARTA,
December 5th, 1881.

Reduction of the salaries of Civilian officers of Government.

3. The *Cháru Vártá*, of the 5th December, points out the necessity that has arisen of making a reduction of the high salaries which are allowed to the civilian officers of Government. In fact nothing but this will relieve the pressure upon the finances which has been caused of late years. In these days of railways and telegraph, and other easy means of communication with England, there is no justification for the high salaries paid to civilians.

ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
December 5th, 1881.

Sir Ashley Eden and the Zemindars of Chanchra.

4. The *Ananda Bazar Patriká*, of the 5th December, observes, in reference to Mr. O'Donnell's case, that the dispute between this officer on the one hand, and Mr. Barton and the Lieutenant-Governor on the other, has, among other matters, led to one particularly bad consequence, namely, the creation of a widespread feeling of disaffection towards the zemindars of Chanchra on the part of their tenants. Mr. Barton had reported to the Commissioner the existence of oppression in this estate, but the latter officer, on his arrival at Jessore, was informed by Mr. O'Donnell, then Acting Magistrate of the district, and living in the same house with Mr. Stevens, the Manager of the Chanchra estate, that there was no foundation for the report. Now this act of Mr. O'Donnell has been made much of; and on the supposition that he had done all this merely for the sake of Mr. Stevens, the Lieutenant-Governor has censured Mr. O'Donnell, because he, it is alleged, had assured the Commissioner that there was no oppression on the Chanchra estate, while the contrary was the fact. Mr. O'Donnell has appealed to the Government of India against the orders passed by Sir Ashley Eden in his case, and the Government of Bengal has therefore, with a view to collect evidence which would justify its action in respect of Mr. O'Donnell, deputed the Sub-divisional Officer of Khoolna for the purpose of finding out if there is really any oppression of the tenantry on the Chanchra estate. The result of this has been that the

tenants have seized the opportunity to withhold the payment of rents, and the zemindar is now placed in great difficulty.

5. The same paper describes certain high-handed proceedings of Mr. Sharp, the Joint-Magistrate of Bogra, and observes, in reference to the memorial which has been made to the Lieutenant-Governor against that officer, that the matter is one which will cause some embarrassment to His Honor, the more particularly as he has but recently inflicted a severe punishment upon Mr. O'Donnell for an offence much lighter than that with which Mr. Sharp is charged.

ANANDA BASAR
PATRIKA,
December 6th, 1881.

6. The same paper deprecates the proposal which is believed to be in favour with Government, to repeal the cotton duties and impose an income-tax in its stead. If the cotton duties are abolished at the instance of the powerful Lancashire merchants, Government will suffer a great loss of revenue, while serious injury will be caused to the newly established cloth mills of Bombay. The measure may, however, be productive of beneficial consequences if it stimulates independent enterprise on the part of the natives of India. The imposition of an income-tax also will be beneficial, inasmuch as it will chiefly affect the Europeans and Eurasians in India.

ANANDA BASAR
PATRIKA.

7. The *Bhārat Mihir*, of the 6th December, contains a long article, headed "A prayer to Lord Ripon." On behalf of East Bengal, the Editor welcomes His Excellency to the metropolis, and expresses his gratification at finding that, after extricating itself from the difficulties of the Afghan War, Government has directed its attention to affairs connected with the internal administration of the country. Lord Ripon's action in reference to the construction of railways in India, the encouragement of local enterprise, the reduction of postal rates, the famine fund, the education of the masses, and the extension of local self-government, is spoken of in terms of high praise, and the article concludes with beseeching His Excellency not to allow any distrust of the people of India to find a place in his mind.

BHARAT MIHIR,
December 6th, 1881.

8. Referring to the rules recently framed by the High Court for the conduct of business by civilians who have been vested with the powers of a moonsif, the same paper makes the following observations:—

BHARAT MIHIR.

Civilians as Moonsifs and Subordinate Judges.

Not a few persons had entertained the notion that these new officers would be vested with powers to try all suits in which Government or any European was a party. We do not, however, believe that there is any ground for putting such a misconstruction upon the motives which have led to the adoption of the new scheme. It is nevertheless a matter for consideration whether the present measure is likely to effect any changes in the Uncovenanted Judicial Service. The rule regarding the limit of age required of the Civil Service candidates, which was made by Lord Salisbury, has had the effect of excluding natives of India from the Covenanted Service. The new rule regarding the Indian Medical Service also has produced a similar result. It is thus clear that although there is at present much talk of appointing natives to superior posts under Government, in practice they are being deprived of even those privileges which were once theirs. The reason of this is of course to be found in the spirit of unmitigated selfishness which characterizes the rulers. Excluded from all other benefits, natives had so long only the Uncovenanted Service open to them to satisfy their high aspirations. The new scheme will in time doubtless lead to a reduction in the number of native officers—a result which cannot but be looked upon as a great loss by the native community. There is also some room for doubt as to the degree of ability the new Subordinate Judges are likely to show in

the trial of civil suits. Considering the difficulty which is felt even by those possessed of a thorough knowledge of the language, manners, and sentiments of the people, and of experience of judicial work extending over many years, in seizing the salient points of a case, there is ample room for doubt as to whether the new officers, perfectly lacking in these qualifications, will be able to give satisfaction in the discharge of the duties now imposed upon them. The Joint Magistrates will of course gradually learn the work, but the interests of not a few suitors will be sacrificed while the process of training goes on. The only hope now lies, of course, in the existence of a qualified mofussil bar, which would doubtless prevent the new officers from committing any serious blunders. But even a qualified bar proves of little avail when the presiding officer of a court happens to be a man of Mr. O'Donnell's stamp.

BHARAT MIHIR,
December 6th, 1881.

9. The same paper welcomes the proposal to abolish the India Council, which is at present but an anachronism, the Secretary of State being directly responsible to Parliament. The abolition of this body will lead to a large saving of public expenditure.

SANSODHINI,
December 8th, 1881.

10. The *Sansodhini*, of the 8th December, is exceedingly gratified to learn that Government contemplates the construction of a railway from Daudkandi to Chittagong. If the project be carried out, there will be a great stimulus given to the trade of that part of the country.

HALISAHAR
PRAKASHIKA,
December 10th, 1881.

11. The *Halisahar Prakáshiká*, of the 10th December, contains a long article on the case of Mr. Sharp, the Joint-Magistrate of Bogra. The Editor points out the necessity that has now arisen of curbing the highhandedness of young civilians, who seem to be perfectly irresponsible creatures. The conduct of Mr. Waller in this connection is strongly condemned. The Editor expresses a hope that Lord Ulick Browne will do justice in the case.

MEDINI,
December 10th, 1881.

12. We extract the following observations from an article in the *Medini*, of the 10th December, headed the "Khas Mehals":—We have repeatedly pointed out how the tenants of the khas mehals in this part of the country have been harassed by over-assessments. The sufferers sought relief from the law courts, but, as is usually found when the weak sue the strong, it was the sufferers who lost their case. It is for this that we feel some hesitation in calling the courts of law established by the British Government courts of justice. Government indeed came off victorious from the contest, but it has been wanting in its duty as a landlord. The grievances of the tenantry on the khas mehals are well known to Government, and yet nothing has been done to grant them redress.

DACCA PRAKASH,
December 11th, 1881.

13. The *Dacca Prákash*, of the 11th December, contains a long article on Sir Ashley Eden's circular regarding the extension of local self-government. The Editor deprecates the proposal to make District Magistrates chairmen of local boards, inasmuch as this will seriously interfere with the independence of these bodies, and points out the desirability of making over to the boards the administration of the Public Works Cess Fund. In conclusion, the writer blames Sir Ashley Eden for what he considers to be an attempt on His Honor's part to express views opposed to those of Lord Ripon.

DACCA PRAKASH.

14. The same paper dwells upon the increase of intemperance among the people of Bengal, which has resulted from the introduction of the outstill system. Sir Ashley Eden's vindication of this measure is pronounced insufficient. The cheapening of liquor has led to widespread demoralization, and the

fact cannot be gainsaid. The Editor exhorts the native public to make a united representation on the subject to Lord Ripon.

15. Now that the Viceroy has arrived at Calcutta, the *Sádháraní*, of the 11th December, directs His Excellency's attention to the necessity of repealing (1) the Vernacular Press Act, (2) the Arms Act, and (3) of taking steps to save the people of this country from the destructive effects of the malarious fever.

SADHARANI,
December 11th, 1881.

16. The same paper condemns the present practice of holding the examinations of the University in the cold season, when fever is prevalent in Bengal. The result of this is that most candidates become unwell, and their disease is aggravated by mental exertion and the need of passing sleepless nights. The inconvenience here pointed out would be removed if the examinations were held in February or March, and the two succeeding months allowed as holidays. Under the existing arrangement, the long winter vacation is spent without doing anything important, and yet it is precisely this time of the year that is most suited for both mental and physical labor. The writer observes, in the course of this article, that the system of study favoured by the authorities of the University fosters cram to an unprecedented extent.

SADHARANI.

17. A correspondent of the same paper notices a fearful outbreak of malarious fever in Gosain Durgapore and adjacent villages in the Khoostea sub-division of the Nuddea district. The writer asks Government to send another native doctor to the afflicted locality, and to take measures for keeping open the channel of the Kumar river at Boalia.

SADHARANI.

18. A correspondent of the *Som Prakash*, of the 12th December, speaks in terms of high praise of the work which is being done by the Postal Department. In fact the people of India would have almost nothing to complain of if all other departments of Government worked so zealously to promote the convenience of the public. By successively reducing the postal rates, the authorities of this department have shewn a really commendable spirit. The Telegraph Department cannot compare with it in point of cheap usefulness, and the advantages offered by the former are such as cannot be availed of by the majority of the people of this country. The writer proceeds to point out that the rule prohibiting registration of letters on Sundays, and fixing particular hours on other days of the week for this work, in practice leads to great hardship, and should be cancelled.

SOM PRAKASH,
December 12th, 1881.

19. Another writing to this paper, asks Government to undertake the dredging of the silt formations in the bed of the Jamuna river, in the district of the 24-Pergunnahs.

SOM PRAKASH.

20. Another writing to the same paper, asks that, in view of the oppression which attends its working, the Contagious Diseases Act should be repealed, and that, in its stead, a section should be added to the Indian Penal Code, declaring that any woman suffering from any contagious disease, and convicted of the offence of earning a livelihood by prostitution, shall be punishable with either fine or imprisonment.

SOM PRAKASH.

21. The same paper dwells, in a long editorial, on certain useful features of the homœopathic and *kaviraji* systems of treatment, and suggests that wards should be established, in connection with the Medical College at Calcutta, for giving a trial to these systems.

SOM PRAKASH.

SOM PRAKASH,
December 12th, 1881.

22. The same paper is gratified to find that Lord Ripon has given a promise that the Famine Fund shall only be expended for the purpose of famine relief. The Editor, however, suggests that it should be entirely set apart in the name of the Famine Commissioners, and that Government should give a guarantee to the effect that the fund shall not be drawn upon for any purpose other than that for which it was originally created. This is necessary, as there is no knowing what manner of men may be appointed to succeed the present conscientious Viceroy and his equally conscientious Finance Minister. The fund should not further be allowed to remain unused ; it is better to adopt measures for the prevention of famines, in the shape of railways and other works for promoting facilities of communication, than to be quite at one's wits' end when the crisis has actually come. Government should endeavour to give a stimulus to the agriculture and commerce of the country.

SOM PRAKASH.

23. The same paper asks that the high fees now paid by the students of the Government colleges should be reduced, thus offering an encouragement to high education, and the number of aided schools should be increased. The educational grant should be augmented.

SOM PRAKASH.

24. The same paper supports the recent memorial of the British Indian Association to Government, on the subject of the zemindari dâk.

NAVAVIBHAKAR,
December 12th, 1881.

25. The *Navavibhakar*, of the 12th December, contains two long articles on the deputation which recently waited upon the Secretary of State for India, on the subject of the repeal of the cotton duties, and the reply given by Lord Hartington. The writer condemns the intense selfishness which actuated the merchants of Lancashire—a feeling which led them to seek the ruin of the cloth-mills of Bombay under the cloak of philanthropy. The reply of Lord Hartington is very cautiously worded. His Lordship found himself in a very trying position. While feeling the necessity of humouring Manchester, he could not at the same time do anything to injure the interests of India, which are confided to his keeping. Be that as it may, the cotton duties are doomed, and they must be repealed sooner or later.

NAVAVIBHAKAR.

26. The same paper approves of the sentiments of the Government resolution on the report of license-tax operations for 1880-81. The observations made by Sir Ashley Eden in the course of this resolution on the subject of direct taxation are much appreciated.

NAVAVIBHAKAR.

27. The same paper notices with exultation the Bill for the repeal of the Vernacular Press Act, and expresses its gratitude to the present Liberal Viceroy and the Liberal ministry for this measure. The writer dwells upon the loyalty of native newspapers.

NAVAVIBHAKAR,

28. The same paper is thankful to Sir Ashley Eden for the able manner in which His Honor vindicated the cause of high education in his speech on the opening of the Maharajah's College at Burdwan.

URDU GUIDE,
December 10th, 1881.

29. The *Urdu Guide*, of the 10th December, states, on behalf of the Mahomedan community of Bengal, that in reference to the two vacancies caused in the highest class of the Order of the Star of India, Government would be doing a really gracious act, and honoring the worthy, if it appointed Nawab Khajah Abdul Guni, c.s.i., of Dacca, and Syad Vilayat Ali, c.s.i., of

Patna, Knight Commanders of the Order of Star of India. The Editor takes the opportunity to press upon the attention of Government the claims of the Mahomedan community to have a representative of their sect in the Legislative Council of India.

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Bengali Translator.

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,

The 17th December 1881.

